increased to 10.5 Million Tonnes per annum from its present capacity of 6.5 Million Tonnes per annum as a result of this expansion project.

(c) For none of these projects, assistance was sought on turnkey basis.

Assistance sought by CIL for thick seam underground mining

6742. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Limited is seeking assistance from France and England for thick seam underground mining; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Coal India Ltd. is presently getting assistance of CDFI, France, for thick seam underground mining at Kotadih mine of Eastern Coal fields Ltd., wherein the technology for extraction of 4.5 metres thick coal seam using single shoe Longwal method is being tried. The extraction of coal has started since July, 1994. However, presently there is no other proposal for seeking assistance for thick seam underground mining from either France or England.

Violation of Collery Control Order, 1945

6743. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that Colliery Control Order, 1945 has been violated;

(b) if so, how many cases have come to the notice of Government; and

(c) whether any punishment has been given to those who have violated it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) Under the provisions of Colliery Control Order, 1945 (as amended from time to time) coal companies supply coal to actual users on the basis of linkages established and/or on the basis of sponsorships issued by the sponoring authorities. Unauthorised diversion/resale of coal obtained by actual users for their own use is an offence punishable under the Essential Commodities Act.

The office of Coal Controller does not appear to have received any complaints regarding violations of Colliery Control Order. However in case of violation of the provisions of the Colliery Control Order, 1945 by way of unauthorised diversion/resale of sponsored coal action has to be taken by the State spossoring authorities/law and order enforcing agencies, under the provisions of Essential Commodities Act.

News items noncerning PSUs handling coal

6744. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

SHRI G. S. SWELL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem published in the "Indian Express" dated the 1st May, 1995 under the caption "Scandal in Bihar PSUs take the fire out of Bofors";

(b) if so, what is the response of Government regarding the coal shortage, adulteration of coal and supply of coal high content of ash and clay;

(c) whether it is a fact that Rs. 100 crore have been lost by public sector units handling coal during the last few years;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what action has been taken against the offenders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) Regarding coal shortage in Bharat Coking Coal Limited, action has been initiated on the basis of the Report of the Government Committee which enquired into these shortages. So far as quality of coal is concerned, efforts are made to improve the quality through the provision of Coal Handling Plants, manual picking up of extraneous material and setting up coal washeries. The Coal Controller Organisation keeps a constant watch over quality of coal despatched to consumers.

(c) No information is available with Ministry of Coal that Rs. 100 crores have been lost by Public Sector Units handling coal during the last few years.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Malpractices in CCL and BCCL

6745. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the financial year 1993-94 and 1994-95 there has been a massive over reporting and account manipulation for showing profit in Coal India Ltd.:

(b) whether it is a fact that a Committee constituted by Government has confirmed that more than five million tonnes of coal production has been over reported in CCL and BCCL;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in one area of CCL one officer was granted extraordinary promotion for showing Rs. 38 crores of profit in 1992-93 on the same stock which Committee found to be over reported; and

(d) if so, what steps Government is taking to curb rampant corruption in CIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) As per the Annual Stock Measurement of coal for the year 1993-94, shortages to the tune of 6.61 lakhs tonnes. 10.00 lakhs tonnes and 0.03 lakhs tonnes were detected in ECL, BCCL and WCL respectively. There has been no account manipulation in the matter. For 1994-95 annual coal stock measurement is in progress.

(b) The Committee constituted by the Government did not cover the shortages in BCCL for 1993-94. The final report if the Committee on CCL has not yet received.

(c) and (d) There is no provision in the promotion policy of CIL to grant any extraordinary promotion.

Manipulation in production data supplies by CIL

6746. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Limited has a history of over reportnig of coal production;

(b) whether it is a fact that in 1984-85 CAG found that Chairman, CIL, Director Finance and Chairman-cum-Managing Director of subsidiary companies had deliberately manipulated the production data;